

The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of communicating administrative information related to the monitoring of a network-based auction facility, the method including:
 - generating ~~facilitating creation of~~ an administrative note pertaining to ~~[[a]]~~ an administrator-selected aspect of an on-line auction facilitated by the network-based auction facility;
 - associating the administrative note with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction; and
 - displaying a note indicator, on a display unit of a network device, to indicate an association of the administrative note with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction when displaying information concerning the administrator-selected aspect on ~~[[a]]~~ the display unit of [[a]] the network device.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises a user of the network-based auction facility.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises an item offered for auction via the network-based auction facility.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 including associating the administrative note with multiple administrator-selected aspects of the on-line auction.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the administrative note includes type information identifying the administrative note as being of a first type of a predetermined set of administrative note types.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein generating ~~the facilitation of the creation of~~ the administrative note includes providing a menu of the predetermined set of

administrative note types for user selection.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the type information indicates a reason for the generation of the administrative note.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~generating the facilitation of the creation of~~ the administrative note includes providing a user interface via which an administrator of the network-based auction facility is prompted to identify the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises a user and the user interface prompts the administrator to input a user identifier.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises an item offered for auction via the network-based auction facility and the user interface prompts the administrator to input an item identifier.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~generating the facilitation of the creation of~~ the administrative note includes calling a note function from any one of a plurality of administrative functions implemented by the network-based auction facility.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the note function comprises an Application Program Interface (API).

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the display of the displaying a~~ note indicator includes calling a note function that searches a plurality of administrative notes to locate an administrative note based on the administrator-selected aspect.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the display of the displaying a~~ note indicator comprises displaying a graphic icon adjacent a text identifier for the administrator-selected aspect.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of communicating administrative information concerning a user of a network-based auction facility, the

method including:

~~providing a note creation function to facilitate creation of an administrative note concerning the user of the network-based auction facility; and~~

automatically invoking ~~the~~ a note creation function from one of a plurality of administrative applications of the network-based auction facility[[]];

generating an administrative note via the note creation function,

where the note creation function associates the administrative note with the user, as identified by an administrator of the network-based auction facility to the note creation function[[]]; and

storing the administrative note in a database.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said automatically invoking the note creation function includes invoking the note creation function invokes a note creation user interface that presents a predetermined set of administrative note types for selection by the administrator, each administrative note type providing a reason for creation of the administrative note.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 including presenting, via the note creation interface, ~~wherein the note creation interface presents~~ the predetermined set of administrative note types for selection to the administrator as a drop-down menu.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 including prompting the user, via the note creation user interface, ~~wherein the note creation user interface prompts the user~~ for any one of a group of information items to be included within the administrative note concerning the user including a user identifier and whether the user is to be suspended.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 including providing searching, via a note search function, ~~that facilitates the searching of~~ a plurality of administrative notes based on user information.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 including providing searching, via a note search function, ~~that facilitates the searching of~~ a plurality of administrative notes based on auction item information.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 including ~~providing searching, via a~~ note search function, ~~that facilitates the searching of~~ a plurality of administrative notes based on type information, specifying a reason for the creation of the administrative note.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 including ~~providing searching, via a~~ note search function, ~~that facilitates searching of~~ a plurality of administrative notes based on addressor information.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 including ~~providing searching, via a~~ note search function, ~~that facilitates searching of~~ a plurality of administrative notes based on addressee information.

24. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the note search function requires verification of identity of the administrator before permitting the search.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 including purging the administrative note after an indicated expiration period.

26. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium storing a sequence of instructions that, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to:

~~generate facilitate creation of~~ administrative data pertaining to ~~[[a]] an~~ administrator-selected aspect of an on-line auction facilitated by a network-based auction facility;

associate the administrative data with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction; and

display a data indicator to indicate an association of the administrative data with the administrator selected aspect of the on-line auction when displaying information concerning the administrator-selected aspect on a display unit of a network device.

27. (Currently Amended) A system to communicate administrative information related to the monitoring of a network-based auction facility, the system including:

a computing device;

a note creation application, executing on the computing device, to facilitate creation of an administrative note pertaining to ~~[[a]] an~~ administrator-selected aspect of

an on-line auction facilitated by the network-based auction facility, and to associate the administrative note with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction; and

a note display application, executing on the computing device, to display a note indicator to indicate an association of the administrative note with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction when displaying information concerning the administrator-selected aspect on a display unit of a network device.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises a user of the network-based auction facility.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises an item offered for auction via the network-based auction facility.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 wherein the note creation application ~~is to~~ associates the administrative note with multiple administrator-selected aspects of the on-line auction.

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 wherein the administrative note includes type information identifying the administrative note as being of a first type of a predetermined set of administrative note types.

32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 31 wherein the note display ~~application is to~~ generates a menu of the predetermined set of administrative note types for user selection.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31 wherein the type information indicates a reason for the generation of the administrative note.

34. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 31 wherein the note display application ~~is to~~ provides a user interface via which an administrator of the network-based auction facility is prompted to identify the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction.

35. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises a user and the user interface prompts the administrator to input a user identifier.

36. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the administrator-selected aspect comprises an item offered for auction via the network-based auction facility and the user interface prompts the administrator to input an item identifier.

37. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the note creation application includes a note function of a plurality of administrative functions implemented by the network-based auction facility.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37 wherein the note function is accessed via an Application Program Interface (API).

39. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 including a note search application that searches a plurality of administrative notes to locate an administrative note based on the administrator-selected aspect.

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 wherein the note display application displays a graphic icon adjacent a text identifier for the administrator-selected aspect.

41. (Currently Amended) A system to communicate administrative information concerning a user of a network-based auction facility, the system including:

a computing device;

a note creation function, executing on the computing device, to facilitate creation of an administrative note concerning the user of the network-based auction facility; and

an administrative function, executing on the computing device, automatically to invoke the note creation function from one of a plurality of administrative applications of the network-based auction facility,

where the note creation function ~~is to~~ associates the administrative note with the user, as identified by an administrator of the network-based auction facility to the note creation function.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 including a note creation user interface, that is invokable by the note creation function, that presents a predetermined set of administrative note types for selection by the administrator, each administrative note type providing a reason for creation of the administrative note.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 42 wherein the note creation interface presents the predetermined set of administrative note types for selection to the administrator as a drop-down menu.
44. (Original) The system of claim 42 wherein the note creation user interface prompts the user for any one of a group of information items to be included within the administrative note concerning the user including a user identifier and whether the user is to be suspended.
45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 including a note search function that facilitates the searching of a plurality of administrative notes based on user information.
46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 including a note search function that facilitates the searching of a plurality of administrative notes based on auction item information.
47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 including a note search function that facilitates the searching of a plurality of administrative notes based on type information, specifying a reason for the creation of the administrative note.
48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 including a note search function that facilitates searching of a plurality of administrative notes based on addressor information.
49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41 including a note search function that facilitates searching of a plurality of administrative notes based on addressee information.
50. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the note search function requires verification of identity of the administrator before permitting the search.
51. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 41 wherein the note creation function is to purge the administrative note after an indicated expiration period.
52. (Currently Amended) A system to communicate administrative information relating to the monitoring of a network-based auction facility, the system including:
means for facilitating creation of an administrative note pertaining to ~~[[a]]~~ an

administrator-selected aspect of an on-line auction facilitated by the network-based auction facility, and for associating the administrative note with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction; and

means for displaying a note indicator to indicate an association of the administrative note with the administrator-selected aspect of the on-line auction when displaying information concerning the administrator-selected aspect on a display unit of a network device.